

**ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
TOWN OF DRACUT
JUNE 30, 2020
WARRANT**

TO: ANY CONSTABLE IN THE TOWN OF DRACUT

Greetings:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of said Town who are qualified to vote in elections and in Town affairs to meet at the Lester G. Richardson Center for the Performing Arts, Dracut High School, 1540 Lakeview Avenue, on Tuesday, June 30, 2020 at 7:00 P.M., then and there to act on the following articles:

ARTICLE #1:

To see if the Town will vote to waive the reading of the Town Meeting Articles as printed in the warrant; or act in any other way relative thereto.

Submitted by Kathleen M. Graham, Town Clerk
Recommendations:

Motion: I move that the Town vote to waive the reading of the Town Meeting Articles as printed in the warrant.

Submitted by: Kathleen M. Graham, Town Clerk

ARTICLE #2:

To see if the Town will vote to hear the report of the Town Accountant, the Board of Selectmen, and any other committee having a direction from previous Town Meetings; or act in any other way relative thereto.

Submitted by Kathleen M. Graham, Town Clerk
Recommendations:

Motion: I move that the Town vote to hear the report of the Town Accountant, the Board of Selectmen, and any other committee having a direction from previous Town Meetings.

Submitted by: Kathleen M. Graham, Town Clerk

Referred from June 3, 2019 Town Meeting

ARTICLE #33:

To see if the Town will vote to establish under M.G.L. Chapter 40, Section 5B a special purpose Stabilization fund (the “School Building and Roof Repair Stabilization Fund”) to be used for costs of replacing roofs or reconstructing and insulating walls at school buildings in Dracut where these wall or roof systems are in excess of thirty years old; or act in any other way relative thereto.

Submitted by Voter Petition
Recommendations:

Motion: I move that the Town vote to establish under M.G.L. Chapter 40, Section 5B a special purpose Stabilization fund (the “School Building and Roof Repair Stabilization Fund”) to be used for costs of replacing roofs or reconstructing and insulating walls at school buildings in Dracut where these wall or roof systems are in excess of thirty years old.

Submitted by Voter Petition

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Referred from June 3, 2019 Town Meeting

ARTICLE #36:

To see if the Town will vote to dedicate, under the provisions of the Municipal Modernization Act and MGL c. 40 Section 5B, fifty percent of the collections of excise tax on sales of marijuana in Dracut to the School Building and Roof Repair Stabilization Fund; or act in any other way relative thereto.

Submitted by Voter Petition
Recommendations:

Motion: I move that the Town vote to dedicate, under the provisions of the Municipal Modernization Act and MGL c. 40 Section 5B, fifty percent of the collections of excise tax on sales of marijuana in Dracut to the School Building and Roof Repair Stabilization Fund

Submitted by Richard Cowan

Referred from November 4, 2019 Town Meeting (held November 18, 2019)

ARTICLE #6:

To see if the Town will vote to accept Mass. General Law, Ch. 40 Section 5B for the purpose of creating a stabilization fund for Special Education expenses. Creation of the fund will provide a resource for unexpected expenses associated with Special Education; or act in any other way relative thereto.

Submitted by Ann M. Vandal, Town Manager
Recommendations:

Motion: I move that the Town vote to accept Mass. General Law, Ch. 40 Section 5B for the purpose of creating a stabilization fund for Special Education expenses. Creation of the fund will provide a resource for unexpected expenses associated with Special Education.

Submitted by Ann M. Vandal, Town Manager

ARTICLE #2 (referred from previous TM - Cont'd)

ARTICLE #7:

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer a sum of money from Free Cash to the Special Education Stabilization Fund. Said funds to be appropriated at a future meeting for expenses associated with Special Education; or act in any other way relative thereto.

Submitted by Ann M. Vandal, Town Manager
Recommendations:

Motion: I move that the Town vote to appropriate and transfer Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$200,000) from Free Cash to the Special Education Stabilization Fund. Said funds to be appropriated at a future meeting for expenses associated with Special Education.

Submitted by Alison Volpe, School Committee

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ARTICLE #3:

To see if the town will vote to authorize the Town Treasurer to enter into compensating balance agreements during the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020 as permitted by General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 5F, or act in any other way relative thereto.

Submitted by Ann Vandal, Town Manager

Recommendations:

Motion: I move that the Town vote to authorize the Town Treasurer to enter into compensating balance agreements during the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020 as permitted by General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 5F.

Submitted by Ann Vandal, Town Manager

ARTICLE #4:

To see if the Town will vote to fix the salaries and compensation of all elective officers of the Town, as provided by General Laws, Chapter 41, Section 108, as amended, to be effective July 1, 2020, and to raise and appropriate such sums of money under the various Town Departments; or act in any other way relative thereto.

Submitted by Ann M. Vandal, Town Manager

Recommendations:

Motion: I move that the Town vote to fix the salaries and compensation of all elective officers of the Town, as provided by General Laws, Chapter 41, Section 108, as amended, to be effective July 1, 2020, and to raise and appropriate such sums of money under the various departments shown below:

Moderator:	\$ 550
Board of Selectmen:	\$2,000
School Committee:	\$2,000

Submitted by: Ann M. Vandal, Town Manager

ARTICLE #5:

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, borrow and/or transfer from Special Revenue, Receipts Reserved, Trust, Agency, Stabilization and Enterprise Funds, such sums of money as may be necessary to defray town charges and expenses for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020, and to make appropriations for the same, or act in any other way relative thereto.

Submitted by Ann M. Vandal, Town Manager

Recommendations:

Motion: I move that the Town vote to raise and appropriate, borrow and/or transfer from Special Revenue, Receipts Reserved, Trust, Agency, Stabilization and Enterprise Funds Eighty Million Two Hundred Seventy Four Thousand Two Hundred Eighty One Dollars (\$80,274,281) to defray town charges and expenses for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020, and to make appropriations for the same.

School Department:	
School Department Operations	\$31,050,000
Transportation	2,700,000
Greater Lowell Regional Technical High School	
Education Assessment	\$ 4,650,000
Transportation	175,000

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Essex North Shore Agricultural & Technical High School		
Education Assessment	\$	5,000
Transportation		3,750
Town Manager		
Salaries, Wages, Expenses & Transfers		<u>\$41,690,531</u>
Total		\$80,274,281

To meet said appropriation the Town shall:

Raise through Taxes and other General Fund Revenues:	\$79,036,824
Transfer from Sewer Enterprise Fund:	195,000
Transfer from Water Enterprise Fund:	100,000
Transfer from SRF Loan Account:	1,650
Transfer from High School Reserve:	55,754
Transfer from Town Hall Reserve:	136,756
Transfer from Tip Fee Reserve:	200,000
COVID-19 Relief Fund	<u>548,297</u>
Total	\$80,274,281

Submitted by: Ann M. Vandal, Town Manager

ARTICLE #6:

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from free cash a sum of money for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020; said sum of money to be used for the FY2020 snow and ice deficit; or act in any way relative thereto.

Submitted by Ann M. Vandal, Town Manager
Recommendations

Motion: I move that the Town vote to appropriate from free cash Two Hundred Twenty Four Thousand Seven Hundred Twenty One Dollars and Fifty Six Cents (\$224,721.56) for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2019; said sum of money to be used for the FY2020 snow and ice deficit.

Submitted by Ann M. Vandal, Town Manager

ARTICLE #7:

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds including retained earnings a sum of money to operate the Sewer Department for fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020, or to act in any way relative thereto.

Submitted by Ann M. Vandal, Town Manager
Recommendations:

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Motion: I move that the Town vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds including retained earnings Seven Million Forty Five Thousand Seven Hundred Fifty Two Dollars (\$7,045,752) to operate the Sewer Department for fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020.

Direct

Salaries & Personnel Expenses	\$ 315,200
Expenses	2,325,100
Capital Outlay	100,000
Debt	<u>4,110,452</u>
Subtotal	\$6,850,752

Indirect

Departmental	<u>\$ 195,000</u>
Total	\$7,045,752

\$7,045,752 from Enterprise Revenues

Submitted by: Ann M. Vandal, Town Manager

ARTICLE #8:

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds including retained earnings a sum of money to operate the Kenwood Water Department for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020, or act in any way relative thereto.

Submitted by Ann M. Vandal, Town Manager
Recommendations:

Motion: I move that the Town vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds including retained earnings One Million Four Hundred Thirty Five Thousand Eight Hundred Eighty Three Dollars (\$1,435,883) to operate the Kenwood Water Department for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020 as follows:

Direct

Salaries & Personnel Expenses	\$ 159,528
Expenses	1,126,355
Capital Outlay	50,000
Debt	
Subtotal	<u>\$1,335,883</u>

Indirect

Departmental	<u>100,000</u>
Total	\$1,435,883

\$ 1,200,000 from Enterprise Revenues

\$ 235,883 from Enterprise Retained Earnings

Submitted by: Ann M. Vandal, Town Manager

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ARTICLE #9:

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, borrow and/or transfer from available funds, a sum of money with said sum to be used for the Town's Chapter 90 Program, reconstruction and improvement of Town Roads and/or sidewalks, said sum to be reimbursed on a 100 percent basis by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, or to act in any way relative thereto.

Submitted by Ann M. Vandal, Town Manager
Recommendations:

Motion: I move that the Town vote to raise and appropriate, borrow and/or transfer from available funds Seven Hundred Eighty Nine Thousand Eight Hundred Seventy One Dollars (\$789,871) to be used for the Town's Chapter 90 Program, reconstruction and improvement of Town Roads and/or sidewalks, said sum to be reimbursed on a 100 percent basis by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Submitted by: Ann M. Vandal, Town Manager

ARTICLE #10:

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, borrow and/or transfer from available funds, a sum of money to be used for the repayment of medical bills that have been incurred pursuant to General Laws, Chapter 41, Section 100, and are outstanding from previous years, or act in any way relative thereto.

Submitted by Ann M. Vandal, Town Manager
Recommendations:

Motion: I move that the Town vote to raise and appropriate, borrow and/or transfer from available funds Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000) for the repayment of medical bills that have been incurred pursuant to General Laws, Chapter 41, Section 100, and are outstanding from previous years.

Submitted by: Ann M. Vandal, Town Manager

ARTICLE #11:

To see if the Town will vote to act on the report of the Community Preservation Committee on the fiscal year 2021 Community Preservation Budget and to appropriate or reserve for later appropriation monies from Community Preservation Fund annual revenues or available funds for the administrative expenses of the Community Preservation Committee, the payment of debt service, the undertaking of community preservation projects and all other necessary and proper expenses for the year, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Community Preservation Committee
Recommendations:

Motion: We move that the Town vote to act on the report of the Community Preservation Committee on the fiscal year 2021 Community Preservation Budget and to appropriate or reserve for later appropriation monies from Community Preservation Fund annual revenues or available funds for the administrative expenses of the Community Preservation Committee, the payment of debt service, the undertaking of community preservation projects and all other necessary and proper expenses for the year as follows:

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		<u>Funding Source</u>
Capital Outlay	\$1,000,000	
Open Space Reserve (Funds to be used only for available Ch. 61A land purchases)		
Administrative: Personnel Services	15,000	Admin. Reserve
Professional & Technical Svcs.	32,150	Admin. Reserve
Supplies & Maintenance	400	Admin. Reserve
Other Charges & Expenses	2,650	Admin Reserve
Debt Service	<u>176,178</u>	
Total Appropriations	\$1,226,378	
 <u>Reserves:</u>		
Open Space (55%)	\$ 698,173	
Affordable Housing (30%)	380,821	
Historical Resources (10%)	126,940	
Administrative (5%)	<u>63,471</u>	
Total Reserves	\$1,269,405	

Further, that any expenditure from the One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000) appropriated above for Capital Outlay must be recommended by a majority of the CPA Committee and a majority of the Finance Committee after a hearing and vote of the Board of Selectmen and Community Preservation Committee has been held on the recommended purchase.

Submitted by: Community Preservation Committee

ARTICLE #12:

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from the Equipment Stabilization Fund a sum of money to fund the FY2021 costs of purchasing/leasing equipment for the Fire Department and/or Public Works Department; or act in any way relative thereto.

Submitted by Ann M. Vandal, Town Manager
Recommendations:

Motion: I move that the Town vote to appropriate and expend from the Equipment Stabilization Fund One Hundred Sixty One Thousand Eight Hundred Seventy Four Dollars (\$161,874) to fund the FY2021 costs of leasing equipment for the Public Works Department.

2 – 2017 Freightliners, 114SD w/Dump/Scraper/Sander/Plow	\$108,056
1 – 2017 Freightliner, 108SD 4X4 w/Sander/Scraper/Plow	<u>53,818</u>
Total	\$161,874

Submitted by: Ann M. Vandal, Town Manager

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ARTICLE #13:

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money from available “offset receipts” for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020 to be used in accordance with the provisions of General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 53E, or act in any other way relative thereto.

Submitted by Ann M. Vandal, Town Manager
Recommendations:

Motion: I move that the Town vote to appropriate a sum of money from available “offset receipts” for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020 to be used in accordance with the provisions of General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 53E½ as follows:

<u>Department</u>	<u>Ceiling</u>	<u>Funding Source</u>
Board of Library Trustees	\$30,000	Fees, Fines, Donations, Grants
School Department	\$25,000	Fees, Fines, Lost Books
Council on Aging	\$15,000	Fees, Fares, Donations, Grants

Submitted by: Ann M. Vandal, Town Manager

ARTICLE #14:

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from free cash a sum of money for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020; said sum of money to be used for the purchase of a mathematics curriculum technology; or act in any way relative thereto.

Submitted by Alison Volpe, School Committee Chairperson
Recommendations

Motion: I move that the Town vote to appropriate from free cash Three Hundred Sixty Thousand Dollars (\$360,000) for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020; said sum of money to be used for the purchase of a mathematics curriculum for the School Department.

Submitted by Alison Volpe, Chairperson

ARTICLE #15:

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from free cash a sum of money for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020; said sum of money to be used to fund the Special Education Stabilization Account; or act in any way relative thereto.

Submitted by Alison Volpe, School Committee Chairperson
Recommendations

Motion: I move that the Town vote to appropriate from free cash Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$200,000) for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020; said sum of money to be deposited into the Special Education Stabilization Account for the School Department.

Submitted by Alison Volpe, Chairperson

ARTICLE #16:

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from free cash a sum of money for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020; said sum of money to be used to fund Special Education costs; or act in any way relative thereto.

Submitted by Alison Volpe, School Committee Chairperson

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Recommendations

Motion to dismiss, duplicate.

Submitted by: Ann Vandal, Town Manager

ARTICLE #17:

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from the Capital Improvement Fund a sum of money for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020; said sum of money to be used for the purchase of classroom computers; or act in any way relative thereto.

Submitted by Ann M. Vandal, Town Manager
Recommendations

Motion: I move that the Town vote to appropriate Two Hundred Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$215,000) from the Capital Improvement Fund for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020; said sum of money to be used for the following:

Classroom Computers – School Department	\$200,000
Face Piece Fit Test Machine – Fire Department	15,000

Submitted by Ann Vandal, Town Manager

ARTICLE #18:

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate, borrow or transfer a sum of money to be expended under the direction of the School Building Committee for the replacement of roofs at the George H. Englesby Elementary School located at 1580 Lakeview Avenue and Brookside Elementary School located at 1560 Lakeview Avenue, which proposed repair project would materially extend the useful life of the school and preserve an asset that otherwise is capable of supporting the required educational program and for which the Town may be eligible for a school construction grant from the Massachusetts School Building Authority (“MSBA”).

The Town acknowledges that the MSBA’s grant program is a non-entitlement, discretionary program based on need, as determined by the MSBA, and any project costs the Town incurs in excess of any grant approved by and received from the MSBA shall be the sole responsibility of the Town. Any grant that the Town may receive from the MSBA for the Project shall not exceed the lesser of (1) 57.74% of eligible, approved project costs, as determined by the MSBA, or (2) the total maximum grant amount determined by the MSBA;

Or act in any other way relative thereto.

Submitted by Ann Vandal, Town Manager
Recommendations:

Motion: 18A) I move that the Town appropriate Two Million Eight Hundred Six Thousand Eight Hundred Eight Dollars (\$2,806,808) for the purpose of paying costs for the replacement of the roof at the George H. Englesby Elementary School located at 1580 Lakeview Avenue including the payment of all costs incidental or related thereto (the “Project”) which proposed repair project would materially extend the useful life of the school and preserve an asset that otherwise is capable of supporting the required educational program and for which the Town may be eligible for a school construction grant from the Massachusetts School Building Authority (“MSBA”), said amount to be expended under the direction of the School Building Committee. To meet this appropriation the Treasurer is authorized to borrow said amount under M.G.L. Chapter 44, or pursuant to any other enabling authority. The Town acknowledges that the MSBA’s

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grant program is a non-entitlement, discretionary program based on need, as determined by the MSBA, and any project costs the Town incurs in excess of any grant approved by and received from the MSBA shall be the sole responsibility of the lesser of (1) 57.74% of eligible, approved project costs, as determined by the MSBA, or (2) the total maximum grant amount determined by the MSBA; and that the amount of borrowing authorized pursuant to this vote shall be reduced by any grant amount set forth in the Project Funding Agreement that may be executed between the Town and the MSBA.

Submitted by Ann Vandal, Town Manager

Motion: 18B) I move that the Town appropriate Three Million Five Hundred Thirty Six Thousand Two Hundred Seven Dollars (\$3,536,207) for the purpose of paying costs for the replacement of the roof at the Brookside Elementary School located at 1560 Lakeview Avenue including the payment of all costs incidental or related thereto (the “Project”) which proposed repair project would materially extend the useful life of the school and preserve an asset that otherwise is capable of supporting the required educational program and for which the Town may be eligible for a school construction grant from the Massachusetts School Building Authority (“MSBA”), said amount to be expended under the direction of the School Building Committee. To meet this appropriation the Treasurer, is authorized to borrow said amount under M.G.L. Chapter 44, or pursuant to any other enabling authority. The Town acknowledges that the MSBA’s grant program is a non-entitlement, discretionary program based on need, as determined by the MSBA, and any project costs the Town incurs in excess of any grant approved by and received from the MSBA shall be the sole responsibility of the lesser of (1) 57.74% of eligible, approved project costs, as determined by the MSBA, or (2) the total maximum grant amount determined by the MSBA; and that the amount of borrowing authorized pursuant to this vote shall be reduced by any grant amount set forth in the Project Funding Agreement that may be executed between the Town and the MSBA.

Submitted by Ann Vandal, Town Manager

ARTICLE #19:

To see if the Town will vote to approve a sum of money of Community Preservation Committee (CPA) funds to acquire a property for open space, consisting of 4.95 acres, at 383 Richardson Road in Dracut, MA. The property is further described as Assessor’s Map 6, Lot 5 and is further described in the Northern Middlesex Registry of Deeds in Book 21460, Page 156. The property is to be placed in a restriction in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 184, Sections 31-33;

Submitted by Community Preservation Committee
Recommendations

Motion: We move that the Town vote to appropriate from the Open Space Account One Hundred Forty Eight Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$148,500) of Community Preservation Committee (CPA) funds to acquire a property for open space, consisting of 4.95 acres, at 383 Richardson Road in Dracut, MA. The property is further described as Assessor’s Map 6, Lot 5 and is further described in the Northern Middlesex Registry of Deeds in Book 21460, Page 156. The property is to be placed in a restriction in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 184, Sections 31-33.

Submitted by Community Preservation Committee

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Hereof fail not and make due return of this warrant with your doings thereon to the Town Clerk at time and place of said meeting aforesaid;

Given under our hands this 26th day of May, 2020:

DRACUT BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Jesse R. Forcier, Chairperson

Tony Archinski, Vice-Chairman

Alison Hughes, Clerk

Joseph DiRocco, Jr., Member

Tami M. Dristiliaris, Member

_____, I have this date posted up attested copies of the above warrant at the following places as designated in the Bylaws of the Town:

PRECINCT 1 and 6A-	Senior Center, 951 Mammoth Road
PRECINCT 2 and 6 -	Richardson Middle School, 1570 Lakeview Avenue
PRECINCT 3 and 8 -	Moses Greely Parker Library, 28 Arlington Street
PRECINCT 4 and 7 -	Campbell School, 1021 Methuen Street
PRECINCT 5 and 9 -	Richardson Middle School, 1570 Lakeview Avenue

Also posted at the Englesby Elementary School, 1580 Lakeview Avenue and

Town Hall, 62 Arlington Street, Inside and Outside

ATTEST: _____
Kathleen M. Graham, Town Clerk
Town of Dracut